# 01941

1996/03/05

### UNCLASSIFIED

ERRORS= n/a

CONCEPTS= n/a

TAGS= PREL, MOPS, CH. JA, TW

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(>) EXCISE

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BEIJIN 07052 051101Z PAGE 01 **ACTION EAP-01** 

INFO LOG-00 ACDA-10 ACDE-00 AIT-03 CIAE-00 OASY-00 DODE-00 DOEE-00 ANHR-01 SRPP-00 FBIE-00 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 ADS-00 M-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OMB-01 PA-00 SP-00 SSO-00 SS-00 TRSE-00 PM-00 PRS-00 P-00 USIE-00 SA-01 PMB-00 DRL-09 G-00 /028W ---1FC4A3 051102Z/38

O 051054Z MAR 96 FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9737 INFO AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI AMCONSUL SHANGHAI **AIT TAIPEI 0051** AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AMEMBASSY TOKYO AMCONSUL HONG KONG AMCONSUL SHENYANG AMCONSUL CHENGDU

CONFIDENTIAL BEIJING 007052

E.O. 12958: DECL: (1.6X5)

TAGS: PREL, MOPS, CH, JA, TW

SUBJECT: HASHIMOTO CONVEYED CONCERN TO LI PENG OVER TAIWAN

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR JAMES R. SASSER. REASON: 1.5 (B)



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2. (C) SUMMARY: THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT TAIWAN WAS DISCUSSED DURING THE RECENT FORTY-MINUTE LI PENG-HASHIMOTO INTRODUCTORY MEETING IN BANGKOK. THE CHINESE WERE REPORTEDLY CONCERNED OVER A POTENTIAL POST-ELECTION LEE VISIT TO JAPAN, WHILE THE JAPANESE REMAINED WARY OF A POSSIBLE "MISCALCULATION" DURING EXPECTED CHINESE MILITARY EXERCISES IN THE TAIWAN STRAIT. AMBASSADOR SATO EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT

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### END SUMMARY.

3. (C) JAPANESE AMBASSADOR PETER SATO TOLD THE AMBASSADOR AT A MARCH 4 GET-ACQUAINTED LUNCH THAT CHINESE AND JAPANESE LEADERS REMAINED CONCERNED OVER EACH OTHER'S INTENTIONS TOWARD TAIWAN. SATO SAID THAT LI PENG HAD A "GOOD CONVERSATION" WITH JAPAN'S NEW PRIME MINISTER, RYUTARO HASHIMOTO, AT THEIR INITIAL MEETING DURING THE MARCH 1-2 ASIA-EUROPE MEETING (ASEM) IN BANGKOK AND THAT TAIWAN WAS A MAJOR TOPIC.

4. (C) SATO SAID THAT LI PENG SOUGHT A JAPANESE OFFICIAL GUARANTEE THAT LEE TENG-HUI WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO VISIT JAPAN AT SOME POINT AFTER THE MARCH 23 ELECTION.

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(NOTE: ACCORDING TO

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JAPANESE AND WESTERN PRESS REPORTS. HASHIMOTO ALSO
PLANNED TO URGE CHINESE "SELF-RESTRAINT" OVER TAIWAN AT
THE SAME MEETING.)

5. (C) AMBASSADOR SATO SAID

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6. (C) IN SPEAKING OF ANTICIPATED CHINESE MILITARY EXERCISES IN THE TAIWAN STRAIT, SATO NOTED THAT JAPAN EXPECTED NO MAJOR PROBLEMS TO DEVELOP. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT TOKYO HAS CONCERNED OVER A POSSIBLE "MISCALCULATION OR ACCIDENT" DURING THE EXERCISES. SATO SAID

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7. (C) ON OTHER ISSUES. SATO SAID HE ANTICIPATED NO MAJOR PERSONNEL CHANGES IN THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP DURING THE ONGOING SESSION OF THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS. HE CLOSED BY SUGGESTING THAT THE TWO EMBASSIES MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO TAIWAN POLICY. SASSER

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- \*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a
- \*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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